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PTO/SB/05 (4/98)
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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL <small>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))</small>		Attorney Docket No.
		First Inventor or Application Identifier
		Title
		Express Mail Label No.
		Edmond Choy
		SYSTEM FOR ARRANGING A PAIR OF OPPOSITE CONNECTORS
		EJ027437214US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS <small>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</small>		ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231	
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> * Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) <small>(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</small>	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)	ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 8. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney <small>(when there is an assignee)</small> 9. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) 10. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations 11. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment 12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) <small>(Should be specifically itemized)</small> * Small Entity 13. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired <small>(PTO/SB/09-12)</small> 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <small>(if foreign priority is claimed)</small> 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <small>[Total Pages 18]</small> <small>(preferred arrangement set forth below)</small> - Descriptive title of the invention - Cross References to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to Microfiche Appendix - Background of the invention - Brief Summary of the invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure	6. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission <small>(if applicable, all necessary)</small> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy b. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy (identical to computer copy) c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies		
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) <small>[Total Sheets 13]</small>			
4. Oath or Declaration <small>[Total Pages 3]</small> a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) <small>(for continuation/divisional with Box 16 completed)</small> i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).			
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☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☒ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: 08 / 858,218
 Prior application information: Examiner Standig, B Group / Art Unit: 2833
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SPECIFICATION

SYSTEM FOR ARRANGING A PAIR OF OPPOSITE CONNECTORS

(This is a Continuation-in-Part of the copending application
Ser. No. 08/858,218 filed May 10, 1997, now U.S. Pat. No. 5882211)

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of The Invention

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The invention relates an interconnection system including at
10 least a pair of opposite connectors, which are adapted to receive
a pair of corresponding modules therein, wherein between this
pair of connector, the conductive traces connected to the
corresponding contacts are arranged in a parallel relationship.

15 2. The Related Art

SO DIMMs (Small Out-line Dual In-line Memory Modules) are
popularly used in the computer field, so that the corresponding
connectors are also desired to be installed within the computer
20 as an interface device for connecting the modules to the mother
board, as shown in U.S. Pat. No. 5,514,002. Recently, more than
one modules are required within one computer for efficient signal
transmission. One approach is to use two stacked connectors on
the mother board to respectively receive the corresponding two
25 modules, as shown in the application Ser. No. 08/393,704 filed
Feb. 24, 1995. Another approach is to directly mount two
connectors on the mother board, respectively. The former
increases the height of the mother board assembly, and also makes
it difficult to solder the longer contact tails of the plural
30 contacts of the upper connector with regard to the mother board.
The latter as shown in FIG. 1 generally has the two connectors
arranged in a front-to-end aligning manner wherein the same
positioned two contacts in the two respective connectors are
aligned with each other and sharing the same trace 200 which is

eventually connected to one corresponding lead of the CPU chip, according to the circuit layout design of the PC board. The distance between these two corresponding contacts is substantially relatively long because these two contacts are spaced from each other by at least the length of the side arm 201 of the front connector. As understood, the longer the trace is, the more the antenna effect occurs, thus making more noise during transmission. It can be understood that a side-by-side arrangement for these two connectors, as shown in FIG. 2, also creates longer traces 200 between a pair of corresponding contacts each located in the same position in the respective connector.

Therefore, an object of the invention is to provide an interconnection system which includes two connectors whereby the traces interconnecting two corresponding contacts having the same position with regard to the two connectors, respectively, are relatively short to prevent themselves from creating unnecessary noise.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to an aspect of the invention, a system for interconnecting two modules to the CPU chip, includes two opposite connectors in a head-to-head arrangement. The traces each of which connects the two corresponding contacts each being located in the same position of the corresponding connector, are generally arranged in a parallel relationship. One of the connectors is substantially a standard one which meets the requirements defined in the general specification. The other of the connectors is generally, but not exactly, of a mirror image with regard to the first one, wherein the positions of the two-row contacts with regard to the housing along the lengthwise direction of the second connector are arranged in an opposite

relationship with regard to those in the first connector. When used, a standard module can be inserted into the first connector in a common way with its upper surface facing up, or can be inserted into the second connector in an opposite way with its back surface facing up, whereby the pads printed on both surfaces of the module can be respectively properly electrically connected to the corresponding traces regardless of which connector it is inserted into.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a pair of connectors mounted on a PC board with an aligned head-to-tail relationship, according to the prior art.

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FIG. 2 is a perspective view of a pair of connectors side by side arranged with each other, according to the prior art.

FIG. 3 is a presently preferred embodiment of a pair of connectors mounted on a PC board with a head-to-head relationship according to the invention.

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FIG. 3(A) is an enlarged partial plan view of the housing of the connector of FIG. 3 to show the offset relation between the upper row passageways and lower row passageways.

FIG. 3(B) is a plan view to show the upper row contact and the lower row contact of the first connector of FIG. 3.

FIG. 3(C) is a plan view to show the upper row contact and the lower row contact of the second connector of FIG. 3.

FIG. 4 is an exploded perspective view of the connectors of FIG. 3 to show the structures of the housing from the front side of the second connector for illustration.

FIG. 5(A) is an enlarged partial perspective view of the first connector of FIG. 3.

FIG. 5(B) is an enlarged partial perspective view of the second connector of FIG. 3.

FIG. 6 is a plan view of a module for use with the connectors of FIG. 3 to show the upside and the downside thereof.

FIG. 7 is a plan view of a pair of connectors of FIG. 3 under a hypothetical situation that the second module is still in a normal upward facing manner within the second connector, to show how the corresponding traces are arranged on the PC board.

FIG. 8 is a plan view of the first module and the second module for use with the first connector and the second connector wherein both of the modules show their upside surface and the corresponding pads thereon, and how each trace electrically connected between the two corresponding pads.

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FIG. 9 is a plan view of the first module and the first module for use with the first connector and the second connector wherein both of the modules show their downside surface and the corresponding pads thereon, and how each trace electrically connected between the two corresponding pads.

FIG. 10 show a second embodiment of the invention.

FIGS. 11 and 12 show a third embodiment of the invention,

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

References will now be in detail to the preferred embodiments of the invention. While the present invention has been described in with reference to the specific embodiments, the description is illustrative of the invention and is not to be construed as limiting the invention. Various modifications to the present invention can be made to the preferred embodiments by

those skilled in the art without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention as defined by appended claims.

It will be noted here that for a better understanding, most of like components are designated by like reference numerals throughout the various figures in the embodiments. Attention is directed to FIGS. 3-5 wherein a system 10 for interconnecting two modules includes a first connector 12 and a second connector 14 each of which is adapted to receive a module 100 (FIG. 6) therein. The second connector 14 is positioned opposite to the first connector 12 in a head-to-head manner with the first connector 12 so that both these two connectors are generally aligned with each other in a front-to-end direction.

The first connector 12 includes a housing 16 having a main body 18 and two side arms 20 and 21 extending rearward at two opposite ends of the main body 18 wherein each arm 20 further includes a latch 22 to cooperate with another opposite latch 22 for retaining the module 100 within the housing 16. Two rows, i.e., the upper row and the lower row, of passageways 24, 26 are disposed in the main body 18 wherein in each pair of passageways 24, 26 including upper passageway 24 in the upper row and the corresponding lower passageway 26 in the lower row, the upper passageway 24 is substantially offset to the right side of main body 18 in comparison with the corresponding lower passageway 26 (FIG. 3(A)). This arrangement is to meet the positions of the corresponding pads 102, 104 respectively printed on both surfaces 106, 108 of the module 100 wherein in each pair of pads 102, 104, which includes a first pad 102 on the first upper surface 106 and a second pad 104 on the second back surface 108, the first pad 102 is substantially offset to the right side with regard to the second pad 104.

Referring to FIG. 3(B), an upper contact 28 is positioned in each upper passageway 24 and a lower contact 30 is positioned in each lower passageway 26 for engagement with the corresponding pads 102, 104 of the module 100 inserted into a central slot 32 5 of the main body 18 of the housing 16.

A key 34 is formed on the right side of the central slot 32 of the main body 18 of the housing 12 to comply with a notch 110 on the front edge of the module 100 so as to prevent incorrect 10 upside-down loading of the module 100 to the housing 12.

The first connector 12 generally is a standard product adapted to meet all the requirements of the standard module 100. The feature of the invention is to provide the second connector 15 14 which includes all the same structures as those in the first connector 12 except two matters illustrated later.

Thus, the second connector 14 includes a housing 16' having a main body 18' and two side arms 20' and 21' extending rearward 20 at two opposite ends of the main body 18' wherein each arm further includes a latch 22' to cooperate with another opposite latch 22' for retaining the module 100 within the housing 16'. Two rows, i.e., the upper row and the lower row, of passageways 24' and 26' are disposed in the main body 18' (FIG. 4). An upper 25 contact 28' is positioned in each upper passageway 24' and a lower contact 30' is positioned in each lower passageway 26' (FIGS. 3(C) and 4).

It can be seen that in the second connector 14, each pair of 30 passageways 24' and 26' still follow the same offset manner as the first connector 12.

When used, the first connector 12 and the second connector 14 are oppositely and head-to-head aligned with each other in the

front-to-end direction on the mother board, whereby a first module 100 can be inserted into the first connector 12 in a normal condition and a second module 100 can be inserted into the second connector 14 in an upside-down state.

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The following description can clearly illustrate the reason why the invention presents this method and the structure relationship of the corresponding passageways 24, 26 of the first connector 12 and the corresponding passageways 24', 26' of the second connector 14. Referring to FIG. 6, as shown, there are 144 different pads 102, 104 on two opposite surfaces 106, 108 of the module 100 wherein the pads 102 on the upper surface 106 of the module 100 are named P1-P72 and the pads 104 on the back surface 108 of the module 100 are named P73-P144, and wherein P1/P73 are a corresponding pair in a vertical direction even though the upper pad 102 is offset to the right side with regard to the lower pad 104 in the lengthwise direction. The remaining upper pads 102 and lower pads 104 also follow the same format. Correspondingly, as mentioned before, to each pair of passageways 24 and 26 of the first connector 12, the upper passageway 24 is offset to the right side in comparison with the corresponding lower passageway 26. The upper passageways 24 and a lower passageways 26 are also named H1-H72 and H73-H144 wherein H1/H73 are a corresponding pair adapted to align with the corresponding P1/P73 of the module 100, and the rest of the upper and lower passageways 24, 26 are in the same arrangement for alignment with the corresponding pair of pads 102, 104. It can be seen that H1 in the first connector 12 is of the upper passageway 24 which is alignment with the corresponding P1 of the module 100.

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As understood, the head-to-head arrangement of the two connectors 12, 14 is designed to reduce the length of the trace 200 which connects the one contact 28/30 of the first connector 12 and another contact 28'/30' of the second connector 14 wherein

each of these two contacts 28/30 and 28'/30' substantially engages the same position pad 102/104 of the corresponding module 100, for example, P1, P2, ... etc. Under this situation, if the second connector 14 still has the module 100 in the normal use, 5 i.e., upper surface 106 facing up, the traces 200 which respectively connect pairs of the contact 28/30 of the first connector 12 and the contact 28'/30 of the second connector 14 can not help but be arranged in an intersection manner as shown in FIG. 7 (this being a hypothetical condition), thus resulting 10 in not only complicating the manufacturing process for making such traces 200, but also generating the improper antenna effect during transmission.

This is the reason why the invention presents a new method 15 having the second module 100', which is totally same with the first module 100, upside-down installed within the second connector 14 wherein as mentioned before, the second connector 14 generally is of a reverse type with regard to the first connector 12, which not only has the similar basic structure with the first 20 connector but also has several differences to comply with the upside-down installation of the standard module 100.

Because the second module 100' is upside-down installed within the second connector 14, pad P1 of the first module 100 25 will be aligned with pad P1 of the upside-down second module 100' within the second connector 14 in the front-to-end direction due to the first connector 12 and the second connector 14 being oppositely aligned with each other. The remaining pairs of pads 102/104 of the first module 100 and the second module 100' also 30 own the same characters. Therefore, the traces 200 electrically connecting corresponding pairs of pads 102/104 of the two modules 100 are naturally configured to parallel to each other and each trace 200 has a relatively shorter length thereof.

Based on the aforementioned requirements, different from the first connector 12, in the second connector 14, passageway H1', which is adapted to align with pad P1, is disposed in the lower passageway 26' because the second module 100' is designedly used 5 in an upside-down manner. Therefore, in the second connector 14, the lower passageways 26' are defined as H1'-H72' and the upper passageways 24' are defined as H73'-H144' wherein H1'/H73' are a corresponding pair in the vertical direction, and the remaining upper and lower passageways 24' and 26' also follow this 10 arrangement. Under this situation, it can be seen that in comparison with the first connector 12 in which passageway H1 starts is close to the right side arm 20 and is of the upper passageway 24, the second connector 14 has its passageway H1' be close to the left side arm 21' and be of the lower passageway 15 26'. Accordingly, in this embodiment, the upper/lower contact 28/30 in the Nth (counted from the right side arm 20) upper/lower passageway 24/26 of the first connector 12 is electrically connected to the upper/lower contact 30'/28' of the Nth (counted from the left side arm 21') lower/upper passageway 24'/26' of the 20 second connector 14 through the corresponding Nth trace 200 (counted from the right side of the mother board).

As mentioned before, to comply with the upside-down use of the second module 100' in the second connector 14, there are 25 several structure differences between the first connector 12 and the second connector 14 other than the numeral definition such as H1 or H1' with regard to their upper or lower passageways 24/26 or 24'/26'. The first difference is that the key 34' of the second connector 14 is formed on the left side of the central 30 slot 32' wherein the distance from the left side key 34' to the center line in the second connector 14 is substantially equal to that from the right key 34' to the center line in the first connector 12. This is because the notch 110 of the module 100 is

set on the right side thereof, and thus the second connector 14 should have its key 34' set opposite to the first connector 12.

The second difference is that a recess 40 is formed on the 5 lower portion 42' of the housing 16' adjacent the second passageways 26'. It is understood that because, to the module 100 or 100', the upper surface 106 and the back surface 108 generally have the same layout arrangement for the corresponding pads 102/104 and the edge notches 110 except one thing, this is 10 the reason why the second module 100' can be upside-down used in the second connector 14. The layout difference between the upper surface 106 and the back surface 108 is that there is a 3.2 mm clearance distance d1 between the outermost edge of the electrical components 112 mounted on the upper surface 106 but 15 is a 4.0 mm clearance distance d2 between the outermost edge of the electrical component 114 mounted on the lower surface 108. This requirements originally complies with the standard connector as the first connector 12 having a larger dimensioned lower portion 42 than the upper portion 44, for not interference 20 occurring therebetween. In the invention, because the second connector 14 is adapted to receive the upside-down module 100, there should be such recess 40 in the lower portion 42' of the housing 16' for avoid possibly interfering with the components 112 on the upper surface 102 of the module 100.

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Accordingly, referring to FIGS. 3(B) and 3(C), to comply with the recess 40, the shape of the lower contact 30' in the lower passageway 26' of the second connector 14 may have somewhat difference to that of the lower contact 30 of the first connector 30 12.

It can be appreciated that the invention presents not only a newly designed connector 14. which is different from the standard connector 12, for receiving an upside-down loaded

standard module 100, but also a system using a pair of connectors 12, 14, i.e., one being standard connector 12 and the other being a reversed-type connector 14, to respectively receive two standard modules 100 therein.

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It can be contemplated that the traces 200 are aligned with the corresponding passageways 24/26 of the first connector 12 and passageways 26'/24' of the second connector 14, and substantially electrically engaged with the corresponding contacts 28/30 and 30'/28' in the first and the second connectors 12, 14. Thus, the modules 100 can be electrically connected to the CPU chip, which generally is mounted on the back of the mother board, through the corresponding contacts 28/30 and 28'/30' and traces 200.

15 It is also noted that the invention provides an arrangement that the Nth pad 102/104 on the upper/back surface 106/108 of the module (counted from the right side of the upper surface 106, is adapted to engage with the Nth upper/lower contact 24/26 of the first connector 12 (counted from the right side arm 20 of the first connector 12), while is adapted to engage with the Nth lower/upper contacts 26'/24' of the second connector 14 (counted from the left side arm 21' of the second connector 14.

FIG. 10 shows a variation of the subject system wherein the first connector 401 and the second connector 401' are head to head positioned with each other while these two connectors are not exactly aligned with each other in a front-to-back direction but with an offset thereof for compliance with the printed circuit board layout limitations. Anyhow, the corresponding traces 404 connected between the corresponding pair of contacts 406/408 and 408'/406' respectively of the first connector 401 and second connector 401', can still be arranged in a relatively shorter manner and simple parallel mutual relation without the

complicate bridge joints or induced noises disadvantages inherent with the prior arts.

FIGS. 11 and 12 shows another embodiment of the invention wherein the first connector 501 and the second connector 501' are back to back arranged with each other on the printed circuit board. Under this situation, the traces 502 each connected between the corresponding pair of contacts 503/504 and 504'/503' of the first connector 501 and the second connector 501', can still be arranged in a simple aligned manner although the traces 502 are relatively longer than those disclosed in the previous embodiments. This condition is also to comply with some other type printed circuit boards and the corresponding restricted space within the notebook computer.

In conclusion, as mentioned before, other than the reversedly positioned key within the housing, the reversed type connector should have a reduced dimension or narrowed width of the lower portion of the housing in compliance with the dimension/width of the upper portion of the housing wherein the upper portion receives the upper contacts therein and the lower portion receives the lower contacts therein, respectively. This reduction/narrowing may be implemented by either forming a limited recess 40 in the lower portion 42' of the reversed type connector 14, or even extending such a recess 40 to the bottom surface of the housing. Anyhow, all such variations substantially form either a recess in the lower portion or a narrowed dimension of the lower portion of the housing for preventing interference with a module which is upside-down received within the housing of the reversed type connector.

While the present invention has been described with reference to specific embodiments, the description is illustrative of the invention and is not to be construed as

WE CLAIM:

1. An arrangement for electrically interconnecting a first connector and a second connector, the first connector being adapted to receive a module, which defines a first surface and an opposite second surface thereof, in a first installation condition while the second connector being adapted to receive said same module in a second installation condition wherein the first surface is facing up in the first installation condition and the second surface is facing up in the second installation condition, comprising:

said first connector including a first housing having a first main body with a plurality of upper contacts and lower contacts therein;

said second connector including a second housing having a second main body with a plurality of upper contacts and lower contacts therein;

said module comprising a plurality of pads printed on the first surface and the second surface thereof; wherein

an Nth pad, counted from a right side on the first surface of the module, is adapted to engage with a corresponding Nth upper contact counted from a right side arm of the first connector, but is adapted to engage with a corresponding Nth lower contact counted from a left side arm of the second connector; in opposite, another Nth pad, counted from a right side on the second surface of the module, is adapted to engage with a corresponding Nth lower contact counted from a right side arm of the first connector, but is adapted to engage with a corresponding Nth upper contact counted from a left side arm of the second connector.

2. The arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein a trace is provided to connect the Nth upper contact of the first connector and the Nth lower contact of the second connector; in contrast, another trace is provided to connect the Nth lower

contact of the first connector and the Nth upper contact of the second connector.

3. The arrangement as defined in claim 1, wherein said trace is disposed on a board on which the first connector and
5 second connector are commonly mounted.

4. A connector assembly comprising:

a first connector including a first housing having a first main body with a plurality of first upper passageways and lower passageways and a corresponding number of first upper
10 contacts and lower contacts received therein, respectively; and

a module including a plurality of pads printed on both first and second surfaces thereof, wherein a clearance distance between components mounted on the first surface is shorter than that between other components mounted on the second surface, and
15 wherein said module is received within the first connector with the first surface facing downward and is adapted to be received within a second connector which includes a plurality of second upper contacts and lower contacts with the first surface facing upward whereby an Nth pad on the first surface counted from a
20 right side is adapted to be engaged with an Nth second upper counted from the right side arm of the second connector and said Nth pad is engaged with an Nth first lower contact counted from a left side arm of the first connector when the module is received within the first connector.

25 5. The assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein another Nth pad on the second surface counted from a right side is adapted to be engaged with another Nth second lower contact counted from a right side arm of the second connector, and said another Nth pad is engaged with an Nth first upper contact counted from a left
30 arm of the first connector when the module is received within the first connector.

6. The assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein the module has a notch offset from a center line thereof on the right side,

and the first connector has a key offset from another center line thereof on a left side.

7. The assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein an additional recess is provided in a lower portion of the housing of the first connector to accommodate possible electrical components mounted on the first surface of the module when the module is received within the first connector.

8. A system for arranging a first connector and a second connectors which are arranged to respectively receive therein a module which defines a first surface and an opposite second surface wherein the first surface faces downward when said module is received within the first connector and faces upward when said module is received within the second connector;

said first connector including a first main body with first contacts therein, and a first central slot for receiving said first module therein, a pair of first side arms extending rearward from two opposite ends of the first main body; and

said second connector including a second main body with second contacts therein, and a second central slot for receiving said second module therein, a pair of second side arms extending rearward from two opposite ends of the second main body; wherein

said first connector and said second connector are positioned with each other in an opposite manner in a front-to-back direction when both mounted on a mother board whereby the pair of first side arms of the first connector and the pair of second side arms of the second connector extend in opposite directions with each other.

9. The system as defined in claim 8, wherein said first connector and said second connector are arranged in a head-to-head manner.

10. The system as defined in claim 8, wherein said first connector and said second connector are arranged in a back-to-back manner.

11. The system as defined in claim 8, wherein said first connector and said second connector are offset with each other in said front-to-back direction.

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ABSTRACT

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A system (10) for interconnecting two modules (100, 100') to the CUP chip, includes two opposite connectors (12, 14) in a head-to-head arrangement. The traces (200) each of which connects the two corresponding contacts 28/30 and 30'/28' each being located in the same position of the corresponding connector (12, 14), are generally arranged in a parallel relationship. One (12) of the connectors (12, 14) is substantially a standard one which meets the requirements defined in the general specification. The other (14) of the connectors (12, 14) is generally, but not exactly, of a mirror image with regard to the first one (12), wherein the positions of the two-row contacts (28'/30') with regard to the housing (16') along the lengthwise direction of the second connector (14) are arranged in an opposite relationship with regard to those in the first connector (12). When used, a standard module (100) can be inserted into the first connector (12) in a common way with its upside surface (106) facing up, or can be inserted into the second connector (14) in an opposite way with its back surface (108) facing up, whereby the pads (P1-P144) printed on both surfaces (106, 108) of the module (100,, 100') can be respectively properly electrically connected to the corresponding traces (200) regardless of which connector (12, 14) it is inserted into.

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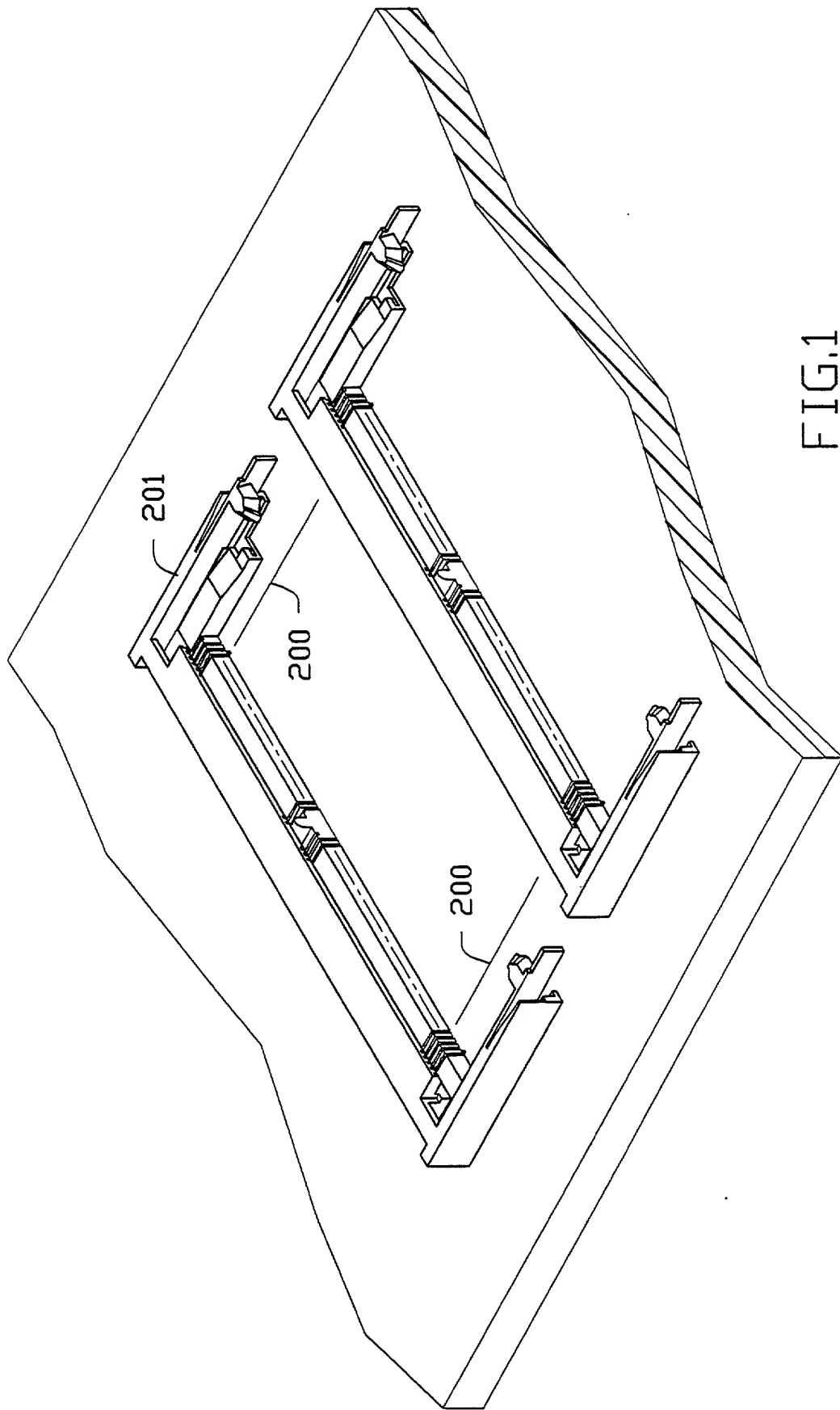


FIG.1
(PRIOR ART)

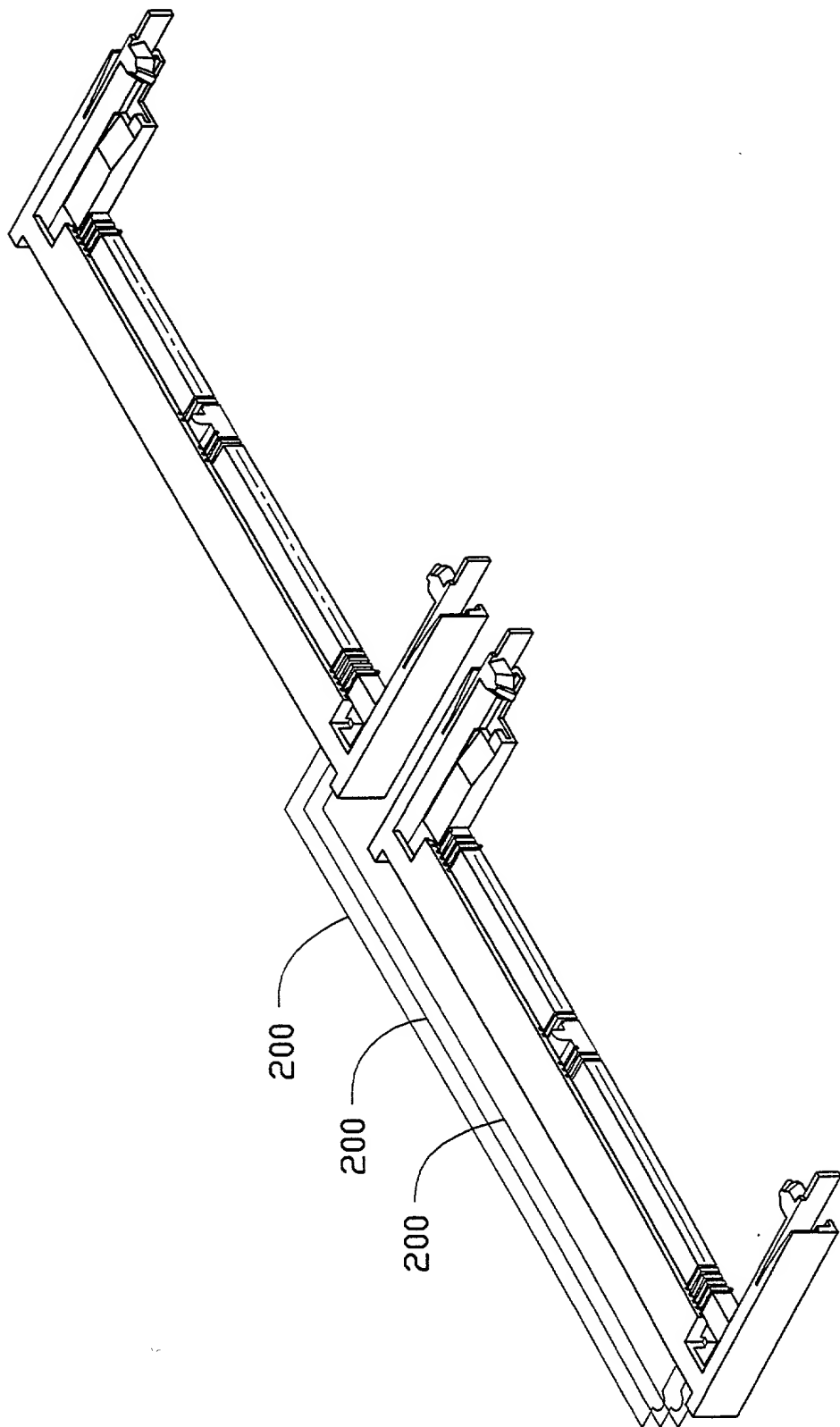


FIG.2
(PRIOR ART)

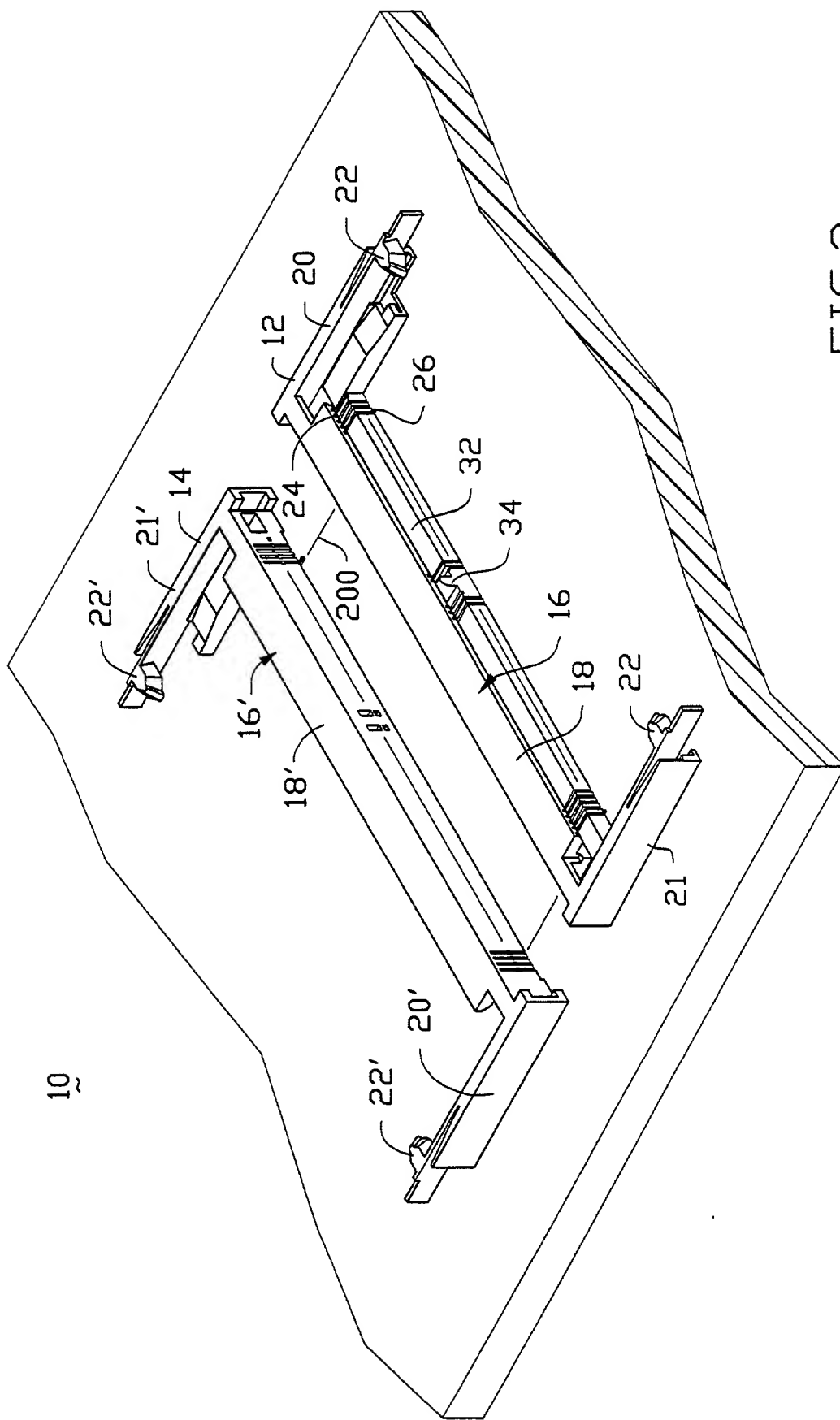


FIG. 3

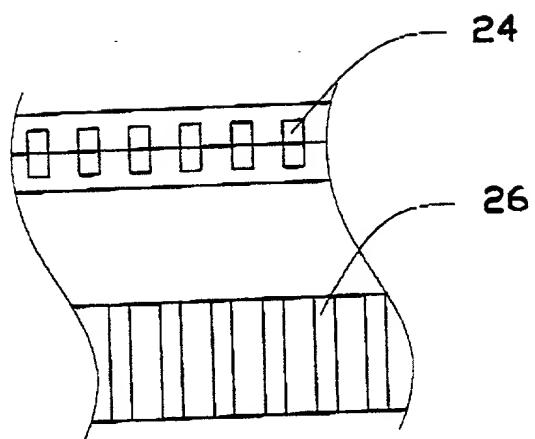


FIG.3 (A)

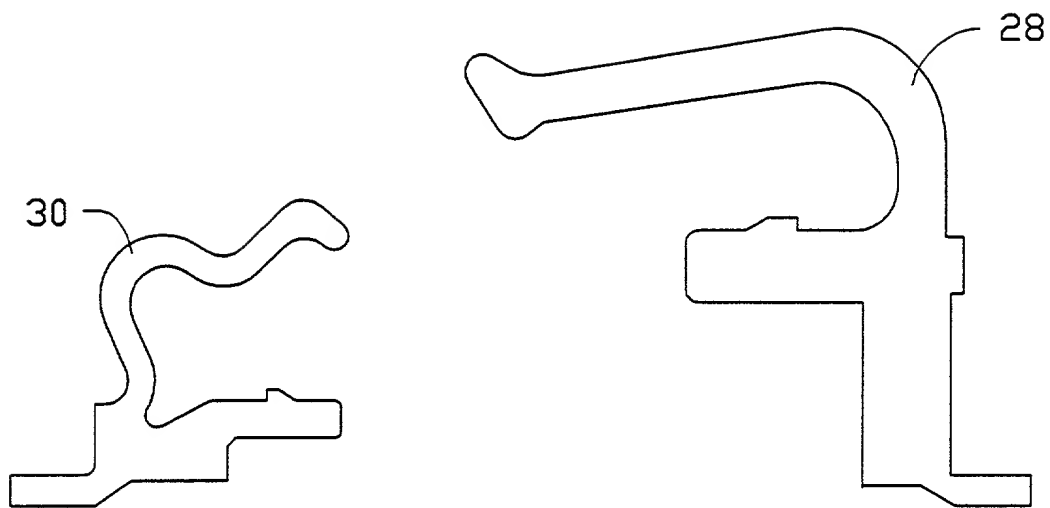


FIG. 3 (B)

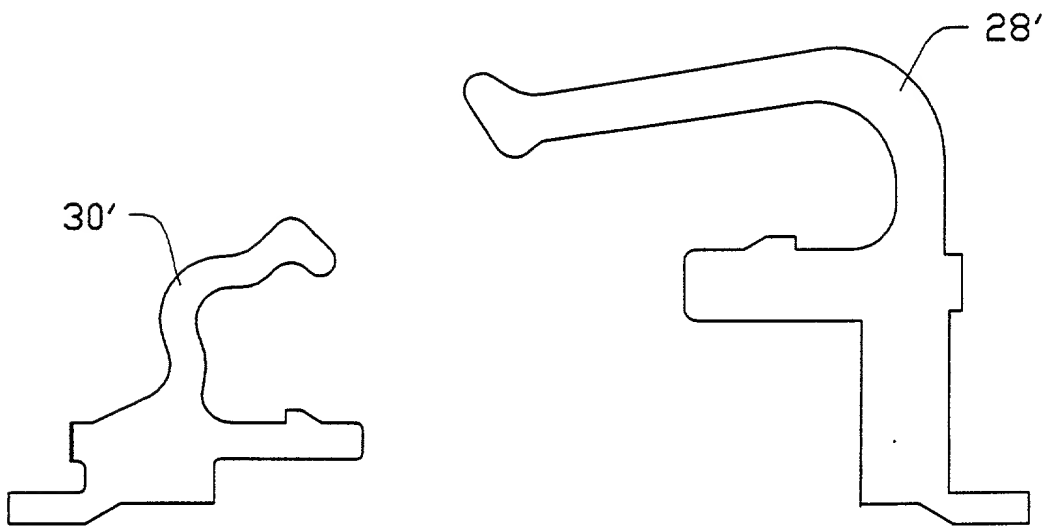


FIG. 3 (C)

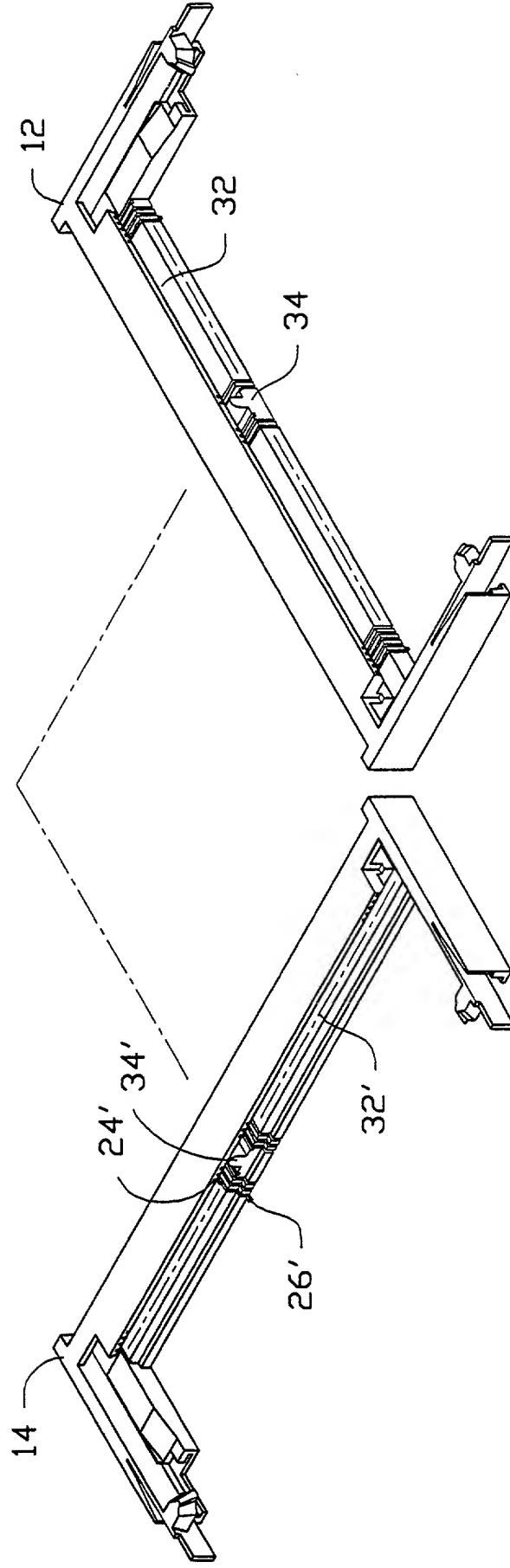


FIG. 4

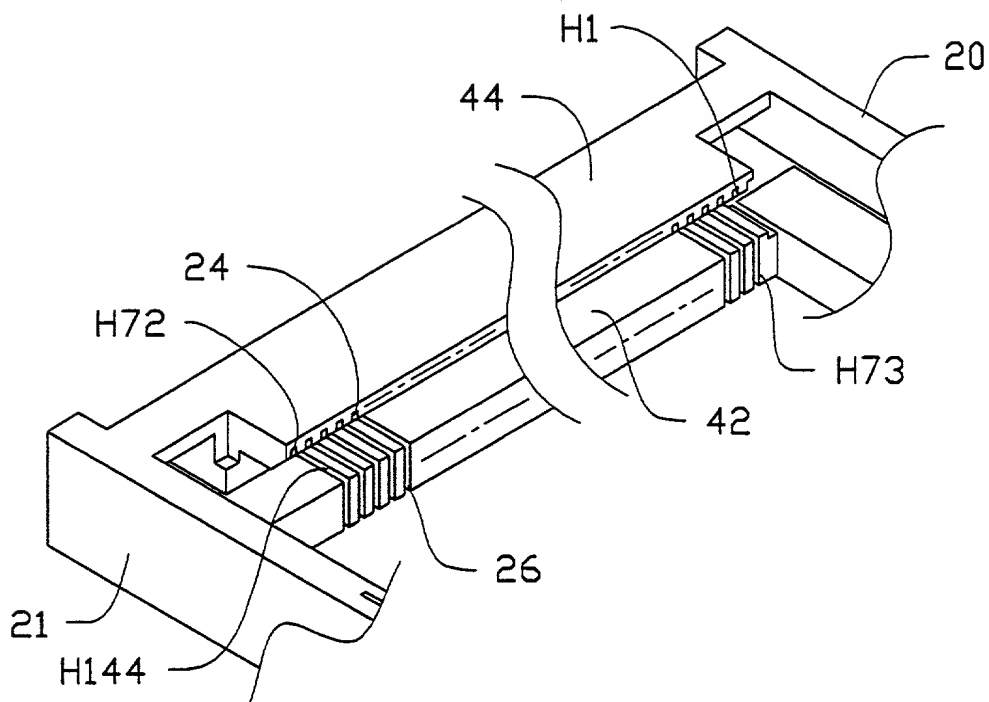


FIG. 5 (A)

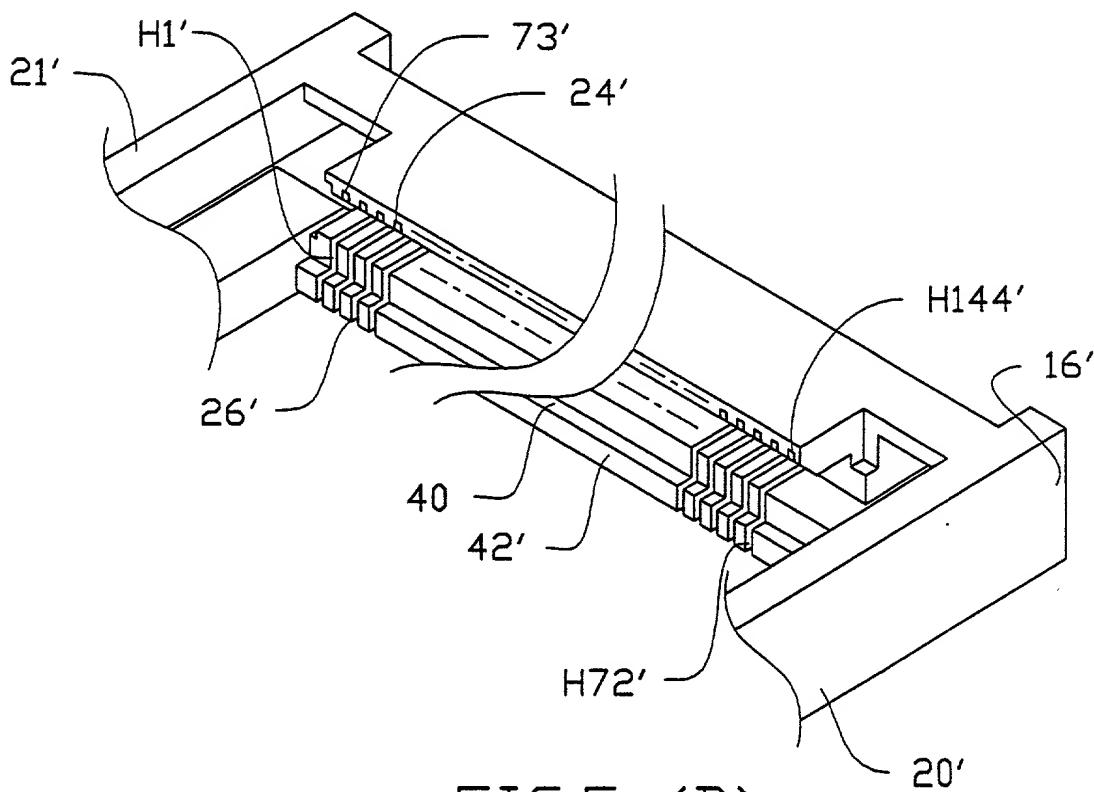


FIG. 5 (B)

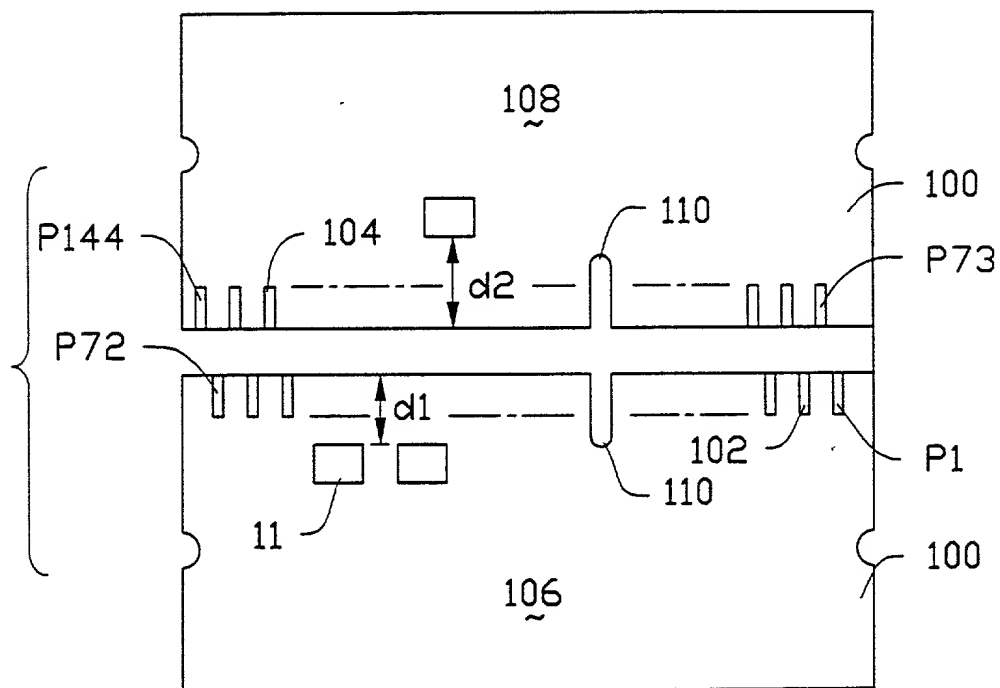


FIG.6

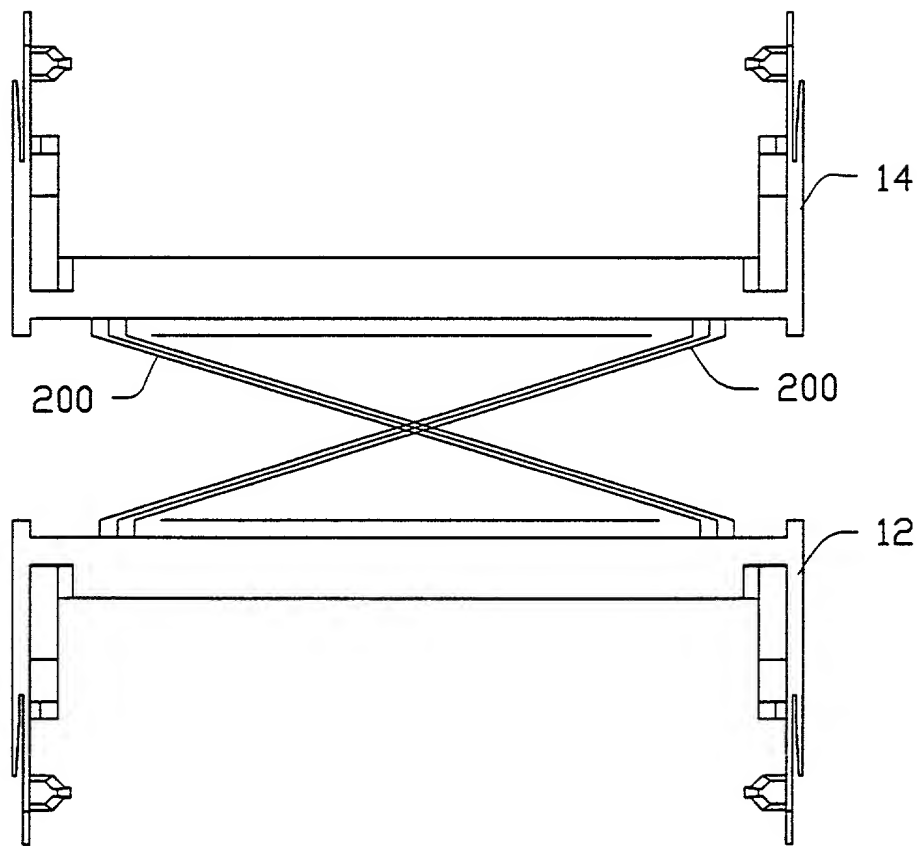


FIG.7

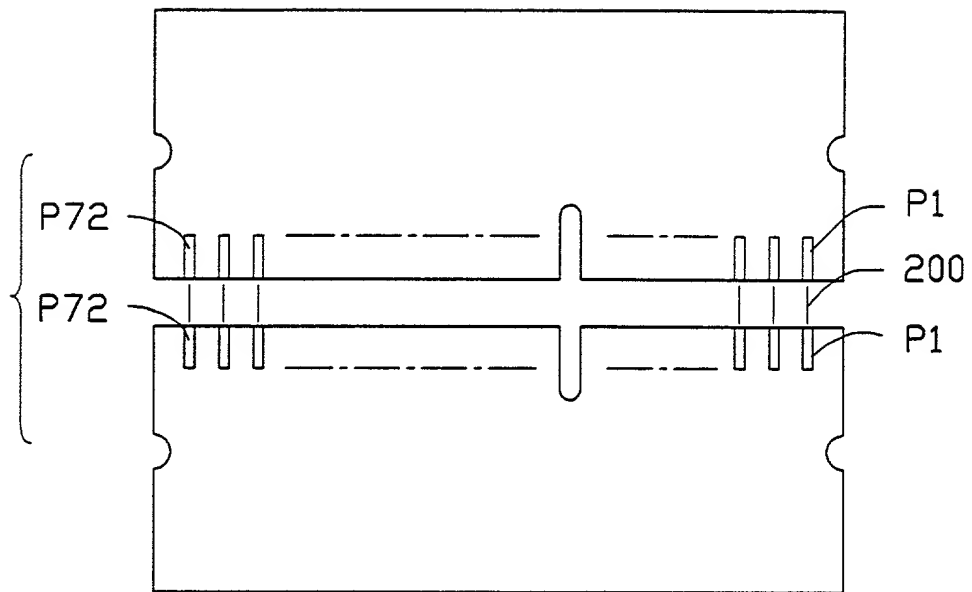


FIG. 8

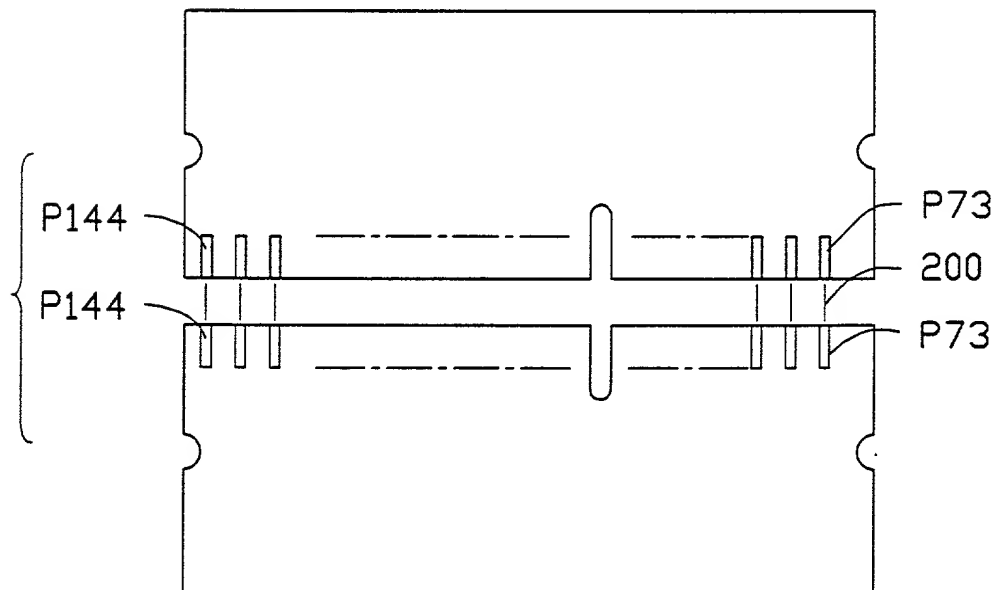


FIG. 9

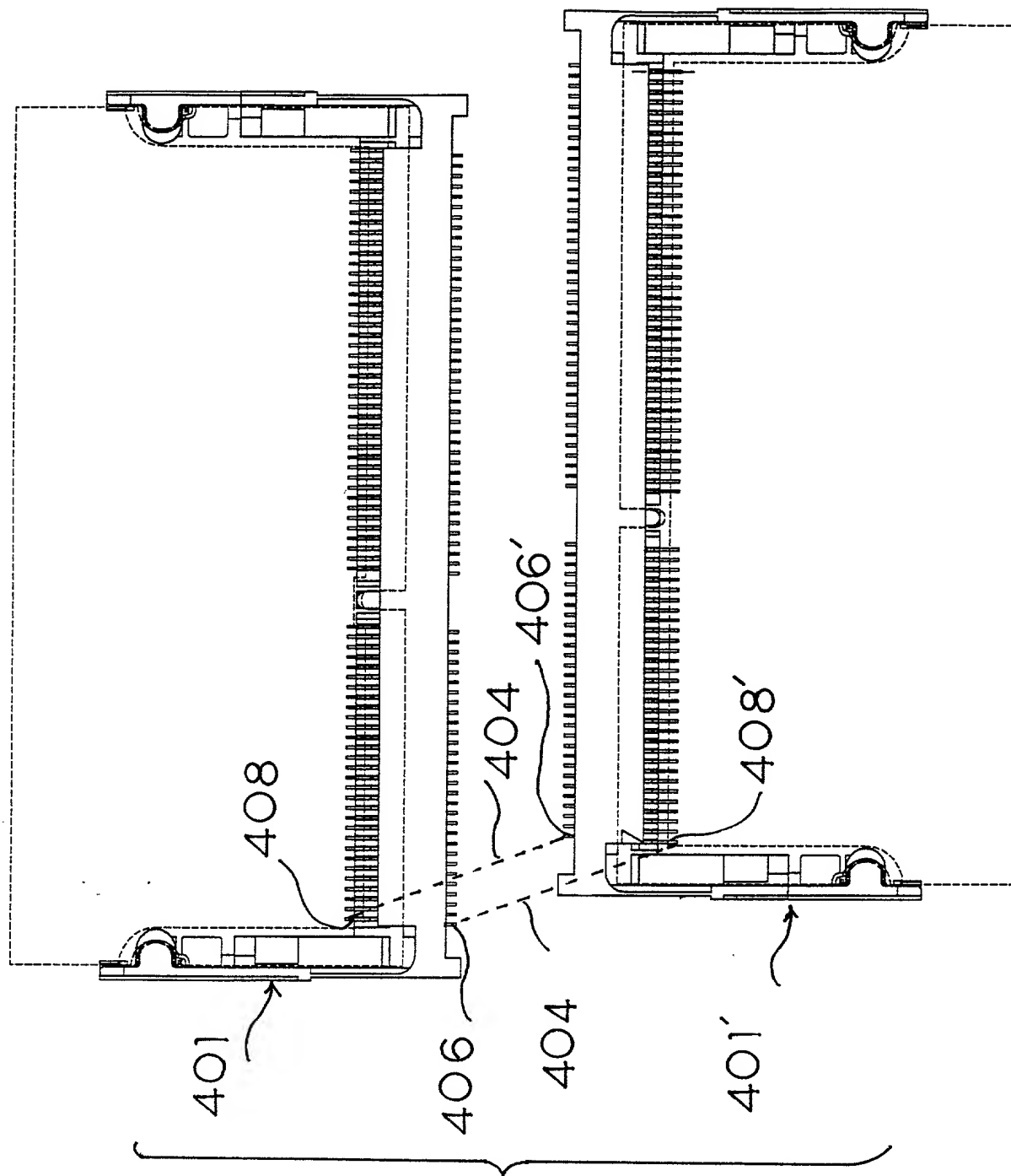


FIG. 10

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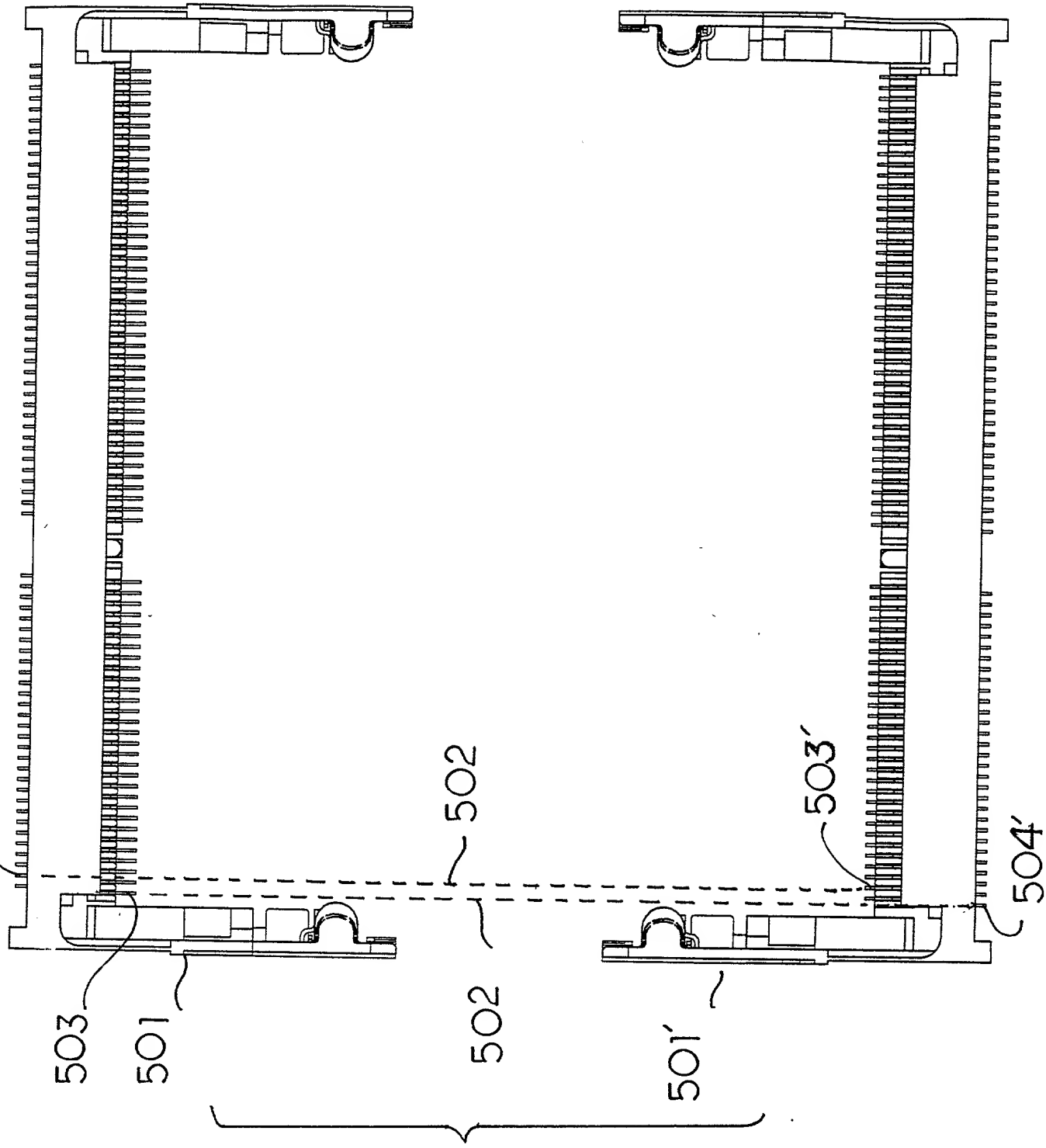
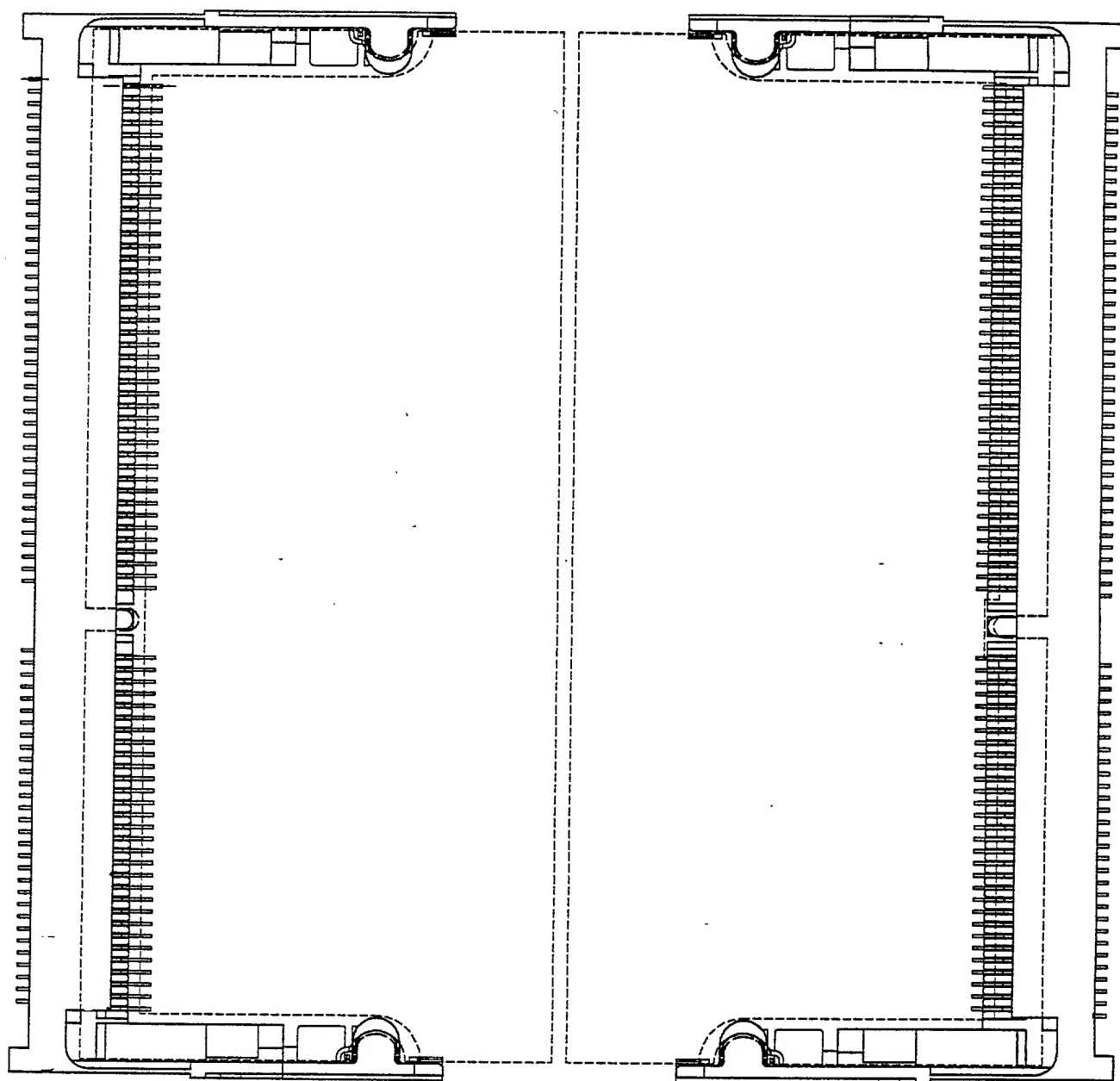


FIG. 11



501

FIG. 12

501'

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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)	Attorney Docket Number	
	First Named Inventor	Edmond Choy
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
	Application Number	/
	Filing Date	
	Group Art Unit	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing	OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)
Examiner Name		

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

SYSTEM FOR ARRANGING A PAIR OF OPPOSITE CONNECTORS

the specification of which (Title of the Invention)

☒ is attached hereto
OR

☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
08/858,218	05/10/97	

☐ Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

☐ Customer Number OR

☒ Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Place Customer Number Bar Code Label here

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Wei Te Chung	43,325		

☐ Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to: ☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label OR ☒ Correspondence address below

Name	Wei Te (Joseph) Chung Foxconn International, Inc.				
Address	1650 Memorex Drive				
Address					
City	Santa Clara	State	CA	ZIP	95050
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	(408) 919-6137	Fax	

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor: ☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle (if any))	Family Name or Surname
Edmond	Choy

Inventor's Signature	<i>Edmond Choy</i>			Date	3/5/99
Residence: City	Union City	State	CA	Country	U.S.A.
Post Office Address	1650 Memorex Drive				
Post Office Address					
City	Santa Clara	State	CA	ZIP	95050
Country	U.S.A.				

☒ Additional inventors are being named on the 1 supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto

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DECLARATION

ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet
Page 1 of 1

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Caesar				Chen			
Inventor's Signature	<i>Caesar Chen</i>					Date	03-11-99
Residence: City	Irvine	State	CA	Country	U.S.A.	Citizenship	Taiwan
Post Office Address 1650 Memorex Drive							
Post Office Address							
City	Santa Clara	State	CA	ZIP	95050	Country	U.S.A.
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Inventor's Signature						Date	
Residence: City		State		Country		Citizenship	
Post Office Address							
Post Office Address							
City		State		ZIP		Country	
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:				<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])				Family Name or Surname			
Inventor's Signature						Date	
Residence: City		State		Country		Citizenship	
Post Office Address							
Post Office Address							
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